FBIS DAILY REPORT

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GOVERNMENT, MINEWORKERS SIGN UNION AGREEMENT

PY211508 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Based on an agreement signed between the government and mineworkers' representatives and the church as mediator, the workers will be organized into unions within 90 days, thus replacing the coordinating boards which have been playing the role of unions. The text of the agreement signed last Saturday, read by Dr (Jorge Espana), who represents the government, is as follows:

[Begin recording] This agreement is signed by the armed forces' government, mineworkers' representatives and the church as mediator, in accordance with the government's general plan by which the armed forces' government will achieve the economic, political and social reorganization, a requirement indispensible for the return to the country's institutionalization process, and in accordance with the mineworkers' proposal. The document signed with the Huanuni mineworkers and the Catholic Church establishes:

1. Full recognition of the right of association and freedom for a labor movement which protects the Bolivian worker. Consequently, the workers will reestablish their labor organizations in compliance with a sectorial timetable set by the Labor and Labor Development Ministry. This organization will begin with the mining sector, to be immediately followed by the other sectors. To this effect, the mineworkers will be organized in: A. unions within a period of 90 days beginning today; B. they will organize their Federations within a period of 180 days beginning today; C. The National Board of Bolivian Workers will be ready in a period of 365 days, when all labor sectors have already concluded the organizations of their federations and confederations. [end recording]

The agreement also establishes that while these organizations are being prepared, basic committees will be established, by democratic election of their members, to handle relations between workers and employers.

[Begin (Espana) recording] While the organizations are being set up, labor management relations will be handled by basic committees whose members will be democratically chosen from each of the labor sectors. [end recording]

The document establishes that the election of union (?leaders) as members of the committees is subject to some requirements.

[Begin (Espana) recording] In order to guarantee the union rights of the workers, the members of the basic committees must fulfill certain requirements to be elected: be a Bolivian citizen by birth; have completed compulsory military service; he must not be under a court sentence, or facing pending litigations with the enterprise, or be handling labor funds or properties.

La Paz, 19 December. [end recording]

The agreement was signed by Labor Minister Guido Suarez, Mines and Metallurgy Minister Carlos Morales, Transport and Communications Minister Hector Caballero, and by 54 representatives of state mineworkers.

A meeting is scheduled today between the miners' delegates and President General Torrelio Villa. According to reliable sources, the miners will present a request to the president regarding the adoption of measures to implement the agreement just signed.

ENERGY MINISTER SAYS PRC URANIUM NOT NEEDED

PY182137 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 17 Dec 81 p 22

[Text] Brasilia (O GLOBO) -- Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals stated yesterday that Brazil will not accept the offer made by the PRC recently to sell enriched uranium to Brazil, because the country already has much uranium and does not need to import it at the moment.

PRC Ambassador to Brazil Zhang Dequn yesterday reiterated the offer of enriched uranium to the mines and energy minister. Dequn will return to Beijing within the next few days at the end of his tour which began in 1975. He will be replaced by the current PRC ambassador to Argentina. Dequn again proposed the intensification of trade relations between the two countries, especially in the energy sector.

According to Cals, the National Security Council will make the final decision on the PRC offer, after listening to NUCLEBRAS [Brazilian Nuclear Corporation] and to the National Nuclear Energy Commission [CNEN], in addition to Itamaraty. Cals said that the country has received offers for the sale of enriched uranium from the Soviet Union, Italy and France.

The mines and energy minister added that BRASPETRO [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] has "excellent" possibilities to hunt for petroleum in the PRC. There is also the possibility of increasing the purchase of petroleum from the PRC, in exchange for iron ore. PETROBRAS President Shigeaki Ueki will probably go to the PRC during the first half of 1982.

MINISTER DENIES NAVY INTEREST IN ANTARCTIC BASE

PY171200 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Adm Maximiano da Silva Fonseca, the Brazilian Navy minister, has stated that the armed forces are not interested in stopping the political opening process and they are exclusively concerned with military activities. The navy minister made this statement during the investment ceremony of new generals. [as heard]

Admiral Fonseca said, moreover, that an isolated voice does not represent the will of the armed forces. The navy minister added that shortly the Navy Minister will call for bids for the building of two corvettes provided for in the [words indistinct] renewal program. By the end of this decade the navy plans to build (?11) corvettes and 3 conventional submarines in compliance with the FRG transference of technology program.

The navy minister noted, moreover, that Brazil does not wish to militarize any sector of the Antarctic and that the Brazilian Navy will not install a navy base in the Antaractic.

SENATE APPROVES RONDONIA STATEHOOD BILL

PY180054 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] The PDS [Social Democratic Party] bloc today approved the bill creating the state of Rondonia. In addition to the votes of the 36 government members, two senators of the PP [Popular Party] also voted for the bill. Now the bill will be passed on for presidential approval.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON VENEZUELA BORDER DISPUTE

Agreement Noted

PA152019 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1756 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Bogota, 5 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- According to Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds, Colombia and Venezuela agreed today to begin demarcating their border, which is 2,200 km long, on 15 January. Lemos said the agreement was reached after a review and comparison of the maps of the two countries was made with an official Venezuelan mission that visited Bogota.

He added that a stretch of 51 km between the place known as Tres Bocas, near Tibu municipality, some 750 km east of Bogota, and the outlet of the Tapara [name indistinct] into the Catatumbo River, will be demarcated first. Border incidents have taken place recently between Colombian settlers and Venezuelan military authorities.

The Venezuelan commission that traveled to Bogota was headed by Gen Ramon Enrique Mendoza Ibarra, borders director of the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry. "Colombia has offered Venezuela all the necessary cooperation to effect an excellent border demarcation and avert future incidents," Lemos said.

Arbitration in Doubt

PA162252 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Text] Bogota -- Colombia cannot go before the International Court of The Hague to settle its border dispute with Venezuela because Venezuela has contested the 1929 arbitration treaty. Colombian Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds made the statement today before the second committee of the House of Representatives in response to a debate on the current state of trade and diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Venezuela contested the obligatory inter-American arbitration treaty but Colombia, due to an error by a junior employee of the Colombian Embassy in Washington, was not advised of the beginning of the proceedings. Lemos said the note which the U.S. State Department sent to the Colombian Embassy did not reach Colombia because a change of ambassador was taking place at that time. Virgilio Barco Vargas was leaving and Jorge Mario Eastman was assuming the post.

Lemos said, however, that neither of them is to blame because there is a memo in the files instructing that the note be remitted. Therefore, the blunder is attributed to a junior employee of the embassy. The Foreign Ministry is investigating the matter.

Further Statement

PA170411 Paris AFP in Spanish 2214 GMT 16 Dec 81

[Text] Bogota, 16 Dec (AFP) -- Colombia today rejected war as the means of solving the dispute with Venezuela regarding the surface and underwater areas. The dispute has existed for the past 15 years. Upon making that statement, Colombian Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds said that "we will not march to war." He added that the solution to the dispute must be reached peacefully and in a just and equitable manner for the two countries.

Lemos Simmonds made this statement at an informal meeting of the Chamber of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee where the Venezuelan problem was debated. However, Lemos Simmonds regretted the failure of the draft treaty that the two countries had worked out in October 1980. This draft was rejected by Venezuela because President Luis Herrera Campins did not receive the needed people's support.

"We regret that this rapprochement did not become a legal reality," Lemos Simmonds said. He added that "what is most regrettable is that this was not a product of improvisation but a product of talks between the two governments. This was the closest that Colombia and Venezuela have ever come to solving the dispute," Lemos Simmonds said. He added that Venezuela has not informed Colombia officially of its rejection.

Lemos Simmonds said that the two governments have continued to search for a solution but that he was not authorized by President Julio Cesar Turbay to speak on this matter.

Lemos Simmonds later told AFP that Colombia has its doors wide open and is waiting for Venezuela to suggest the possible path to the dispute's solution. He pointed out that it is "Venezuela's turn to speak" and that "we would like to continue the direct dialogue, or choose an international legal alternative that will permit the conflicts between the two states to be solved."

POLISH SITUATION AFFECTS LOCAL LEFTISTS

PA210014 Paris AFP in Spanish 1616 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Bogota, 20 Dec (AFP) -- The difficult political, economic and social situation existing in Poland today caused a crisis in the Colombian leftwing, which includes the Communist Party of Colombia (PCC), The Socialist Party (PS) and other minority opposition groups. This situation resulted from a confrontation between the two most representative sectors of the left; the Socialists and the Communists.

The PS demanded that Gerardo Molina, 78, the leftist presidential candidate, break off relations with the PCC, after accusing that party of promoting violence and repression, not only in Colombia but in other parts of the world. In a document that its executive committee issued today, the PS also condemned the repression practiced against workers and students in Poland and criticized the martial law system and the ban on strikes.

The PS accused Gilberto Vieira, PCC secretary, of publicly supporting the murder of workers in Warsaw and other Polish cities. "The rulers of Poland and their masters in the Kremlin have taken the wave of terror against the Polish people to extremes. Hundreds of people have been wounded, thousands are under arrest, the Solidarity union has been outlawed and unofficial media have been silenced by force," the PS document states.

Similarly, the PS demanded that the Colombian Workers Trade Union Confederation, a communist labor union, break with "leaders who are the accomplices of the murderers and agents of the bureaucrats in the Kremlin." The crisis, however, will not have too much impact on candidate Molina, who said today: "I am certain I will not win the presidential elections on 30 May 1982."

ARAB TERRORIST COMMANDO UNIT SEEKS TRAINING

PA151933 Paris AFP in Spanish 1447 GMT 15 Dec 81

[Text] Bogota, 15 Dec (AFP) — An Arab terrorist commando unit entered Colombia through Panama and announced that it will train guerrillas to fight for the liberation of Palestine and its people. At a clandestine interview granted to Bogota's CROMOS magazine the commando leader, said that the movement has also infiltrated Eduador, Panama, Peru, and Venezuela.

The terrorist said that they possess modern weapons that are superior to those used by the Colombian Army. He also said "we belong to the commandos supporting the Arab cause," and "our movement is composed of Latin American Arabs."

He refused to speak about the Jews during the interview and said that they chose Colombia for their activities because "it is one of the nations that is most open to foreigners."

"The unity of the Arab people is our main objective," he said, and at the same time pointed out that the movement hopes that all Arabs, either by birth or origin, will join the struggle for liberation.

"I am Commander Cuatro in Latin America," he said, adding "we have a guerrilla training camp in Colombia, but I cannot reveal its location for security reasons."

The guerrilla leader said that several Colombians have joined the movement and added that "we prefer persons who have not had anything to do with the guerrilla struggle in this country."

He said that the movement started in Managua, Nicaragua, in 1975 and from there it moved to El Salvador. "We have no relationship with the Palestine Liberation Organization," he clarified. He also said that even though they are radical in their decisions, they cannot be accused of being barbarians.

SUBVERSIVES RELEASE KIDNAPPED HUILA RANCHER

PA211905 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Neiva -- The police reported that Alfonso Bermeo Falla, a rancher of Huila Department who had been kidnapped by subversives on 5 December, was released today near the municipality of La Plata. Bermeo Falla was kidnapped from his ranch by the subversives.

It is unknown if the rancher's family paid a ransom. So far it is only known that he was released by the (?12) insurgents who kidnapped him.

PRESIDENT TURBAY APPOINTS THREE NEW GOVERNORS

PA112238 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Text] Bogota -- President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala solved a partial crisis at the governor level today when he appointed new governors for Norte de Santander, Magdalena and the San Andres intendancy.

Government Minister Jorge Mario Eastman told this station that the following appointments were made: new Magdalena governor is (Jose Caballero Cromane), a Liberal Party member, replacing (Clino Luna Moron). The new governor for Norte de Santander will be (Cayetano Moreno y Lazaro) replacing (Humberto Latorre Chacon). (Moreno y Lazaro) is a former congressman of the Alvarist faction of the Conservative Party of the line of leader (Lucio Pabon Nunez). (Tilvia Robinson de Saavedra) was appointed new intendant of San Andres replacing (Ana Garcia de Pescal).

Eastman said that the possibility for new changes at the governor level soon is not discarded, adding that politics are like a chess game where strategic movements are necessary.

EL SALVADOR

GOVERNMENT APPEAL DEFENDS ELECTION PROCESS

PA212212 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 21 Dec 81 p 75

[Paid advertisement]

[Text] To the Salvadoran people: The revolutionary government junta is being attacked directly by political parties which on several occasions have verged on insult. The government believes that this is part of the price paid to open paths and find the way that will lead us to the full enjoyment of a democracy, and not of the extreme rightist or leftist totalitarianisms that destroy the freedoms of man.

The excuses given to tarnish the government's intention of holding free elections are not justified. On the contrary, they serve to obstruct a democratic decision, or are born of political impotence. The revolutionary government junta is confident that the people trust our intention to fulfill our promise of holding an electoral process that will reflect the sovereign will of our people. Elections are feared only by terrorists, opportunistic political groups and those used to fraud and imposed decisions. They will join efforts to boycott the elections or to recover positions of privilege in order to destroy the political gains of the Salvadoran people.

The revolutionary government junta reasserts that elections will be free and that the armed forces will guarantee the purity of elections so that El Salvador can advance with firm steps towards its pacification and democratization. For this reason, we make an appeal to good sense, understanding and the patriotism of all sectors involved in the electoral process so that, placing national interests above selfish purposes, we can show the world that there is still a solution to the Salvadoran crisis that is not violence.

[Dated] San Salvador, 21 December 1981

OPPOSITION LEADER UNGO COMMENTS ON SITUATION

PY212142 Santiago Chile HOY in Spanish 18-24 Nov 81 p 60, 61

["Exclusive" undated interview granted by Guillermo Ungo, leader of the Salvadoran Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR), to journalist Gonzalo Caceres in the FRG]

[Text] [Question] What does the FDR think of the elections called by the government?

[Answer] We have labeled them "the elections of death." Last year, the day after the call for elections was made, the FDR president and four members of its national board were murdered. They were kidnapped, tortured and then murdered by the government security services.

[Question] What alternative does the FDR offer?

[Answer] Every passing day clearly shows that the current government junta is not the solution. At the same time, we can see that the only choice to solve the conflict is a broad based democratic government, based on understanding and alliance.

[Question] Who would make up this government?

[Answer] The FDR and the FMLN, of course. We do not pretend to be exclusive and we are not trying in any way to exclude others because we believe in the need for a broad based agreement including all political, social, economic and military sectors willing to work for a democratic program of change.

[Question] In the FRG and in Europe in general there was a great deal of talk about the need for the forces confronting each other in El Salvador to reach an agreement. Even the Socialist International took the initiative in this direction. Have these initiatives yielded any practical results?

[Answer] Intensive work has been carried out in this direction since February of this year. The FDR and the FMLN believe they have the historic responsibility of searching for a political solution. It should be well established that the current Salvadoran Government -- controlled by a military power stubbornly advocating a wrong policy -- has opposed a political solution. All other efforts are aimed at weakening the plan for a military solution and are aimed at making possible a negotiated political solution. In this regard, I cannot predict the future, but I do believe that the idea is making progress even among U.S. public opinion, where the need for changes in U.S. Government policies is seen.

[Question] Phillip Agee, former CIA agent, said in his book that the CIA has failed in El Salvador. Do you share that opinion?

[Answer] I do not like to give final judgments because politics has contradictory elements. I do believe, however, that it is not only the CIA but the overall U.S. system which is failing to understand the real national situation of many countries. I believe this can be proven in many situations. It is the case of Iran, Vietnam and Nicaragua. What is happening is that the United States is not capable of understanding the political, historic, cultural and religious values and the real causes of our problems.

[Question] Your movement is accused of being a front for Cuba and the Soviet Union. What is your opinion in this regard?

[Answer] I have just returned from a meeting of the Socialist International in Paris. The support given by this organization to our cause including the attitude of the permanent conference of Latin American political parties -- which comprises a wide spectrum of governments and political forces of all ideologies -- shows the plurality of the support for the Salvadoran people. It is also understood that the basic cause of our problems is national in nature and that the idea of trying to make El Salvador and Central America a ground for East-West confrontation is a false position.

LAND DISTRIBUTION FUND MARKS FIRST ANNIVERSARY

PA220115 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 21 Dec 81 p 71

[Excerpts] Official report: During the commemoration of the first anniversary of the National Fund To Finance Agricultural Lands [FINATA], 240 land titles were presented to former tenants, share croppers and settlers under Decree 207. This increases to over 18,000 the number of land titles granted so far. This means that over 100,000 peasants, including the direct beneficiaries and their families, will work their lands with the assurance that they can keep the fruit of their daily labor for themselves.

In his speech on the first anniversary of FINATA, Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich, president of the Salvadoran Institute of Agrarian Transformation, reasserted that agrarian reform, of which Decree 207 is one of the most important steps, has as its goal -- together with other changes in structure implemented by the government and the armed forces -- to bring dignity to the people, especially the peasants. With the passing of time, and as a result of the revolution, they will have more economic power and the necessary dignity to participate in a democratic system.

DYNAMITE ATTACKS ON ELECTRICAL TOWERS CONTINUE

PA220344 Paris AFP in Spanish 0047 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 21 Dec (AFP) -- Another week of violence began in El Salvador with new dynamite attacks against a number of high tension towers. The attacks suspended electrical service in a wide zone of the metropolitan area and in several towns in the central and eastern parts of the country. The towers were located between Soyapango and San Rafael Cedros, east of the capital. After attacks of a week ago, San Miguel and Usulutan departments are still without electricity, and the lack of water and refrigeration is already being felt.

GUATEMALA

NATIONWIDE VIOLENCE CAUSES 16 DEAD, 35 WOUNDED

PA220237 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Several gunfights occurred in Guatemala yesterday and today during which 16 persons were killed and 35 wounded. Five of the wounded were national police attacked in various parts of Guatemala City. The provincial town mostly affected this weekend was Retalhuleu, where gangs of criminals killed five persons.

NICARAGUA

MISURASATA CLAIMS CREDIT FOR KILLING CUBANS

PA211248 (Clandestine) Radio 15 September in Spanish to Nicaragua 0300 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Statement from the Miskito, Sumu, Rama Sandinist Unity; no date or place given -- in Spanish following Indian-language statement]

[Text] We fell on them at El Cerro mine. They were recovering gold, which was used to purchase weapons. Our army recovered the people's gold. We claimed credit for that recovery. We fell upon the (?warehouses) of the Nicaraguan Basic Food Enterprise, ENABAS. We destroyed [words indistinct].

Why, we ask the Sandinists, at this point after our general staff has issued various statements, have they not mentioned our name? Why are they afraid to say that it is the Miskito, Sumu, Rama, Sandinist Unity, Misurasta, that is opposing them on the Atlantic coast? Why at this late date have they failed to say that it was Misurasata that executed two internationalist teachers -- who were allegedly internationalists, because we know that they were Cubans [words indistinct] in the Sumu community.

Why have they failed to say as yet that Misurasta did this? We have claimed credit for all those incidents before the world. We have claimed responsibility for the six prisoners that we are presently holding. Why don't they mention us? They know perfectly well that we are the Misurasta people, made up of 250 Indian community in a single region.

Our children are responding to Sandinist violence. It is our children who are taking action in this matter. From the depths of our community, our children are taking action to execute the Cuban teachers who have come as internationalist teachers, when theory is the last thing on their minds. We hold those teachers that we are not counterrevolutionaries. Those adjectives are not accurate when applied to us. Let it be clear; Misurasta is responsible for all those events. We tell the Sandinist front not to hide this. [sentence indistinct]

D'ESCOTO RETURNS TO MANAGUA FROM TRAVELS

PA191344 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Father Miguel d'Escoto Brockman, the minister of foreign relations, arrived in Nicaragua at 1830 today. Thus ends an important assignment of international work. At the OAS General Assembly held in St Lucia, Father d'Escoto was outstanding in the defense of the principles of the Sandinist people's revolution and national sovereignty as well as the right of self-determination of peoples.

Later, he traveled to Moscow, where he talked to the Soviet foreign minister and other high-ranking officials, who expressed solidarity with Nicaragua.

AID, COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH FRANCE

PA191509 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] The deputy director of the French Treasury and the deputy finance minister of Nicaragua this afternoon signed a protocol on aid and cooperation between the two governments. The protocol, which was signed by Jean Claude Trichet representing the French Government, states that France will give the Republic of Nicaragua some FR63 million.

The aid includes a donation of 10,000 metric tons of wheat and financial aid in the amount of FR50 million for the importation of various goods necessary to the reconstruction of the Nicaraguan economy. This aid includes a loan from the French Treasury at very soft terms. William Hupper, the deputy finance minister, signed for Nicaragua.

This aid reflects the French Government's political will to support the reconstruction and development efforts of the Nicaraguan Government.

BAYARDO ARCE CLOSES SANDINIST YOUTH ASSEMBLY

PA211616 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Excerpt] The FSLN National Directorate last night reiterated its confidence in the 19 July Sandinist youth through the speech delivered by Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce to close the second national assembly of the youth organization.

In his speech to the youth gathered in the Espana Sports Complex, Bayardo Arce, coordinator of the political secretariat of the FSLN, made an objective analysis of the harsh outlook for Nicaragua in 1982. Arce said 1982 will be characterized by an intensification of the counterrevolutionary activity and an economic situation even more difficult than the one in 1981.

[Begin recording] We have to bear in mind that perhaps as an expression of the aggressive policies of imperialism or perhaps indirectly stimulated by those imperialist policies we have already begun to experience a new spate of counterrevolutionary activity.

If before the end of 1981 we saw the inconceivable event in which the enemies of this revolution didn't hesitate to condemn to death more than 100 innocent people who were going to board a commercial plane, what can we expect of the counterrevolutionary activity in the coming months? We are inevitably going to expect a murderous viciousness which perhaps many of us can't imagine at this time. [end recording]

In this regard, Bayardo Arce stressed the importance of the role that the Nicaraguan youth must play. He demanded from them more effort and dedication in their studies and work.

Commander Arce said the FSLN expected them to prepare to become the cadres of the future and to work harder. The FSLN also expects the youth to be ready to close their books and open the trenches of defense if necessary. You have to study a lot with the rifle nearby, he said amid loud applause from the participants. Here is another excerpt of his speech last night;

[Begin recording] We have already learned of the general resolutions that you have approved. We feel that the National Directorate's confidence in you is well founded because the spirit of commitment that is reflected in those resolutions lead us to believe that in 1982, even more than 1981, our people and the Sandinist Front will have in the youth one of their main basis of support to overcome the challenges of our revolution. [end recording]

BORGE ANNOUNCES STRICTER POLICY ON PARDONS

PA220302 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0020 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Speech by Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge Martinez, Nicaraguan interior minister, closing the third UN racial discrimination seminar at Ruben Dario theater in Managua -- live or recorded]

[Excerpt] When the Sandinist Front National Directorate asked me to write the (Juan Jose Cacada) combat unit proclamation, based on a unit under the direction of Commander Eduardo Contreras in the victorious action of 27 December (?1934), I wrote that we would be implacable in combat and generous in victory. This sumarized the philosophy of the Sandinist revolution with its enemies. The National Guard as an organization was swept away, pulverized, and each national guardsmen who survived the war has been treated, as far as possible, with the greatest generosity. Many of them have been released, and those who are still in prison are participants in an effort we are making to establish a modern and deeply humane penitentiary system.

We see the prisoners not as objects of punishment, but as subjects for transformation. Therefore, every prisoner in the penitentiary system will have the opportunity to work and to reclaim himself. We truly do not have the vocation of jailers. Our vocation has been, is and will always be fighters for freedom and justice. [applause]

Therefore, we have wanted to transform penitentiaries into work centers. Unfortunately, this political desire of the revolution is limited by the country's difficult economic situation. We have developed literacy programs in the jails. We have given each prisoner a Bible. Priests are permitted to hold religious services in the jails. We have established culture centers and sports and artistic teams. We have eliminated at the roots the physical mistreatment of prisoners and have even eliminated verbal aggression.

Our government had planned to grant a certain number of pardons this Christmas. Unfortunately, our specialized organizations have verified that a large number of the guardsmen pardoned in the past are now part of the counterrevolutionary murderers and that some of those involved in the cowardly criminal atack on the AERONICA plane are also pardoned prisoners. No more, no less. The photograph of one of them is around here somewhere. This means that in the future the selection of pardons will be made more carefully in accordance with the broadly generous policy of the revolution. For the time being, there will be no pardons. [long applause]

The junta of the Government of National Reconstruction asked me to say what I just said and to point out that in the future mechanisms will be prepared to bring the generosity of the revolution into harmony with the requirements for the defense of the fatherland. We freed them and they went out to plan murders. The police know that most of the individuals we have released have taken up lives of crime of every kind. Unfortunately, they were national guardsmen, and you know what that means in this country. They will have to go through a long reeducation and rehabilitation process. We do not want to destroy them, but to rescue them as human beings.

NICARAGUAN EDUCATION MINISTER VISITING COUNTRY

FL220137 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] Nicaragua's education minister, Carlos Tunnerman, has arrived in our country to participate in the activities commemorating the 20th anniversary of the literacy drive in our country. The Nicaraguan leader was received by Julio Reyes, secretary general of the National Science and Education Workers Union.

SOVIET AGRICULTURE MINISTER VISITING HAVANA

FL181618 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Valentin Karpovich Mesyats, member of the Central Committee of the CPSU and agriculture minister of that brother country, has been received at the headquarters of the Cuban-Soviet Friendship Association by Zoilo Marinello, president of this institution. The minister and the delegation accompanying him held a very friendly dialogue with Marinello and then inspected the institution's installations.

Mario Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples Vladimir (Voycherenki), minister counsellor at the USSR Embassy in Cuba, and other officials of the embassy were also in attendance.

PERUVIAN LEFTIST DELEGATION TOURS HAVANA AREA

FL211550 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1525 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] A Peruvian delegation has visited the headquarters of the people's government. Oscar Fernandez Mell, member of the Central Committee and president of the Provincial Assembly of Havana City province, met with members of the United Leftist Front of Peru [Frente de Izquierda Unida del Peru] at the headquarters of the organization. During the meeting, Fernandez Mell explained the structure of the electoral system and the development and mechanisms of the people's government.

CUBA, ANGOLA SIGN COOPERATION AGREEMENT FOR 1982

FL181453 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] In Luanda, representatives of the governments of Angola and Cuba have signed an agreement which will expand economic-commercial cooperation between the two nations during 1982. The document was signed at the conclusion of the second meeting of the joint subcommittee for economic, scientific and technical cooperation, which has held this week.

Outstanding increases in cooperation in the branches of livestock and agriculture, industry, the sugar industry, public health, construction, education and sports are among the principal aspects of the agreement.

The agreement was signed by Paulino Pinto Joao Ferreira Neto, Angolan secretary of state for cooperation, and Manual Torres, vice president of Cuba's State Committee for Economic Cooperation, who asserted the Cuban Government's readiness to continue to offer aid to that African country in all spheres. For his part, Ferreira Neto valued very positively the results of the meeting and stressed that is constitutes an important step forward in the development of cooperation between the two countries.

JAMAICA

WORKERS PARTY CONGRESS ENDS; TO STRESS 'EDUCATION'

FL211850 Bridgetown CANA in English 1741 GMT 21 Dec 81

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, 21 Dec (CANA) -- The pro-Soviet Workers Party of Jamaica (WPJ) is stepping up its campaign to recruit members as a major plank in its efforts to survive in a hostile atmosphere, Party General Secretary Trevor Munroe said here last night. Dr Munroe, re-elected as general secretary, was speaking to between three and four thousand people at the closing session of the party's four-day congress here.

His statement coincided with the publication here of an opinion poll indicating that the WPJ's standing among the Jamaican electorate had fallen, sliding from between two and three percent of the popular vote to just over 1 percent. However, the WPJ general secretary has denied this, saying that despite the election victory of the pro-Western Jamaica Labour Party 14 months ago the party's support was stronger than ever. When the WPJ was created at its first congress in 1978, the democratic socialist People's National Party (PNP) was still in power, and the communist group, despite its ideological difference, gave critical support to the Michael Manley government. But with Manely's defeat the Jamaican left suffered a setback, accused the authorities of harrassment and charged that the Edward Seaga government has plans for repression. The government once said it had uncovered plans for Cuba-trained terrorists to distrupt its economic strategies to ensure that there was no recovery in Jamaica.

The WPJ's survival strategy, Dr Munroe revealed, also included the stepping up of the party's education work, which would involve explaining to workers "what communism is, what socialism is and what imperialism means to them." He said too that the party would actively resist repression, using every constitutional means at its disposal. Added Dr Munroe: "We are communists. We are also Jamaicans, and no way as Jamaicans and communists are we going to sit down and allow the rights of Jamaican people to be taken way.... We will resist by all constitutional methods at our disposal."

Dr Munroe charged that Mr Seaga's economic programmes had failed and would continue to do so while the Jamaican economy was structually linked to that of the United States, and responded to the "ups and downs" of the capitalist market system. The Seaga government hopes to build a strong export-led economy, using the proximity to the North American market and preferential treatment by the U.S. to entice exports. The WPJ leader claimed that the Jamaica Manufacturers Association had produced a document (which had received only limited circulation) showing that factory operating capacity to October had declined to 49.2 percent from 49.6 percent in October 1980. It also showed, he said, that sales over the same period had fallen from 143 million to 80.9 million dollars (one JCA dollar: 56 cents U.S.), and that real wages during the first quarter of the year had dropped from 8.7 million to 4.9 million dollars (J). Fifteen factories had also been closed, he quoted the document as saying. "Even the capitalists admit that economic recovery is not happening for them, much less the workers," Dr Munroe declared.

On the PNP's turn in office, Dr Munroe said that it had brought good to the Jamaican working class, but because the PNP had failed to upturn the capitalist economic system and had not dealt firmly with sabotage and anti-worker actions, these gains had now been reversed. "For the PNP not to make the mistakes of the past those who speak on behalf of the grass roots must have more power," Dr Munroe declared.

Cuba Attacks Seaga

FL212348 Bridgetown CANA in English 2310 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, 21 Dec (CANA) -- The Cuban Communist Party [PCC] has sharply attacked Jamaica's prime minister, Edward Seaga, describing him as a surbordinate of Washington who had sold out his country to transnational companies and the local oligarchy.

The conservative Seaga has drawn Jamaica close to Washington since coming to power here 14 months ago, and near the end of October he dramatically broke diplomatic relations with Havana, claiming that....Cuba was harbouring three wanted Jamaican criminals who were also being trained in terrorism.

This latest in the attacks on the Jamaican prime minister since the diplomatic rupture was contained in a message sent by the Central Committee of the Cuban party to the second congress of the Worker's Party of Jamaica (WPJ) which ended here last night.

Two Cubans [who] were to have attended the congress were refused entry visas by the Jamaican Government. The message was read at the public session of the congress and was also released to the press. The Cubans said that Mr Seaga's diplomatic break was unjustified and unpopular and that he had made slanderous attacks against their country.

The Cuban Communist Party said that Jamaican people were feeling more painfully than ever the effects of the capitalist economic crisis, which provoked unemployment and poverty for the mass of the people. The situation, it said, had been "exacerbated by the dependent and neo-colonialist nature of the Jamaican economy and the pro-imperialist, pro-capitalist policy of the government headed by the reactionary Edward Seaga, whose failure in the economic management of the country is clearly evident, and who has sold the Jamaican people out to the transnationals and the local oligarchy with false promises of well-being, proof of the Jamaican Government's growing subordination to the dictates of Washington."

The Cuban party claimed that the Seaga administration had entered negotiations with the U.S. for setting up of a military base here, and accused it or reneging on support for the Non-aligned Movement and the Group of 77. At the same time, it claimed, Jamaica has established closer relations "with the genocidal junta at El Salvador...the repressive and corrupt regimes in South Korea and Chile, the main sources of support for the South African regime and its aggressive racist policies."

"While the government makes demagogic statements denouncing South Africa and the attack on Angola, Seaga has been strengthening his alliance with his master Reagan," the Cuban message said.

The Cuban party said it knew of repression directed against "the democratic forces in Jamaica" and of plans to restructure the police and army, with U.S. assistance, to keep protest in check and to carry out repression. It added: "The Reagan-Seaga alliance constitutes a real threat to the progressive forces, the Jamaican people and the Caribbean peoples. Beware of their reactionary plans."

BURNHAM BLASTS VENEZUELA'S TERRITORIAL CLAIM

FL211627 Bridgetown CANA in English 1600 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 21 Dec (CANA) -- President Forbes Burnham has warned Venezuela that if it uses the military option against Guyana in pursuit of its territorial claim, Guyanese will fight to their "last drop of blood."

In an address at Anna Regina, the administrative centre of Essequibo County yesterday on the 17th anniversary of the ruling party in office, President Burnham said that Venezuela had not only exercised its right to terminate the protocol of Port-of-Spain but has abrograted to herself the right to block Guyana's hydroelectric project and to dictate the development of Guyana.

Venezuela formally notified Guyana on December 11 that it owuld not agree to a further moratorium in negotiations on ownership os Essequibo, a 160,000 square kilometre mineral-rich region which occupies two-thirds of the former British colony. Venezuela is buying F-16 planes valued (at) more than the annual budget of Guyana to bully, frighten and press Guyana into making accomodation with her, said President Burnham. But it is not the gun, but the man behind the gun, not the size of the weapon but the way it is used... Venezuela's size does not frighten the PNC (ruling People's National Congress), Mr Burnham said. He continued: Let me repeat publicly. Guyana is not warlike, it cannot be warlike. We prefer discussions at the table. But Guyana will take no bullying from Venezuela and if it takes the last drop of blood in the last one of us, the Venezuelans shall not pass.

President Burnham said the Venezuelan claim was based on its succession to Spain as an imperialist power but the modern history of Venezuela flowed out of Simon Bolivar's struggle to free Venezuela from the Spanish coloniser. Psychologically, historically and morally, the Venezuelans cannot boast of Bolivar as their national hero par excellence and claim land in Guyana on the basis of having inherited it from the Spaniards, said President Burnham.

A country like Guyana stands in the way of Venezuelan hegemony as pursued by its present authorities, said President Burnham, and our ideology is unacceptable to Venezuelans. They do not want any socialist country on their border. He added however that despite Guyana's problems, the standard of living of Guyana as a whole is higher than Venezuela's. We have no slums in Guyana approaching the misery one sees in the slums of the barrios of Caracas.

President Burnham also called on Guyanese to close ranks in the fact of the Venezuelan threats. We warned: Anyone who makes light of the Venezuelan claim is a fifth columnist, aiding and abetting Venezuela. When such people are dealt with there should be no talk of democarcy because it is the security of the state that is at stake.

Turning to local issues, President Burnham told the rally that included farmers from nearby main rice-growing areas, that the nation's rice producers would receive appreciably higher prices from the government for their first crop in 1982. He announced that the Guyana cabinet last Tuesday approved plans for state lands leased for agriculture but not used, to be taken back from year-end and redistributed to farmers who have no land or do not have sufficient. The time will come when if you are not using your lands the state will take them away and distribute them to farmers who will use them, he said.